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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Pre-sessional meeting for the fourth session
New York, 11-13 May 2005

Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional meeting

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Briefing by the Secretariat:
   (a) Briefing on relevant developments **since the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, including** in the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in 2004;
   (b) Preparations for the fourth session of the Forum.
3. Overview of standard United Nations operating procedures for the members of the Forum and its secretariat (communications with the Forum secretariat, reporting guidelines, handling of invitations to meetings, clearance of texts, use of official United Nations stationery and logo, other assistance to Forum members, privileges and immunities of Forum members, administrative procedures regarding travel and other issues).
4. Methods of work of the Forum:
   (a) Portfolio system for members and its significance; portfolio preferences of members until now;
   (b) Preparation of recommendations (two types of recommendations: for action by the Economic and Social Council; brought to the attention of the Council);
   (c) Time frame of work during the session (opening of the session, high-level speeches, dialogue with organizations, consultations among members, deadlines for submission of recommendations, meetings with the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues, and the Friends of the Forum group, briefing for member States, opening of the annual indigenous exhibit and cultural event, side events);
   (d) Role of the Chairperson and the Bureau between sessions;
   (e) Working with the United Nations system, Governments and regional organizations; engaging civil society and the private sector; significance

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